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Department of Conservation
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Navigation and
Ocean Development
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Water Resources

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THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA AND 145

File

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

NOV 2 7 1984

Ms. Judith E. Ayres
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental
Protection Agency
215 Fremont Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Ayres:

Thank you for your letter of October 30, 1984, requesting my support in obtaining additional resources for the Division of Oil and Gas to carry out functions mandated by the Federal Underground Injection Control (UIC) program.

I fully support your Agency's delegation of primary responsiblity for regulation of Class II injection wells in California to the Division of Oil and Gas. However, as you have indicated, additional personnel resources may be needed for this program.

Currently the Department of Conservation's Division of Oil and Gas is attempting to redirect staff from other programs to assure that the mandates of the Federal program are met. I support their redirection efforts, and hope that in this way both the historical high quality of the injection program can be retained, and compliance with requirements of the Federal program can be achieved.

The Department of Conservation will continue to keep you apprised of their efforts to obtain budget approval for redirecting staff to the UIC program.

Sincerely,

Gordon K. Van Vleck

Secretary for Resources



October 30, 1984

Honorable Gordon K. Van Vleck Secretary for Resources Resources Agency 1416 9th Street, Room 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Van Vleck:

I am requesting your support in obtaining resources sought by the California Division of Oil and Gas (Division).

In March, 1983 primary responsibility for regulating the Class II portion (wells injecting fluids associated with the production of oil and gas) of the Underground Injection Control program was delegated to the Division. The Division had successfully demonstrated to both the staff in this regional office and a review team in Headquarters that it had a very good record of protecting drinking water resources in the state and that its program met or exceeded most aspects of the Federal program. Among the minor changes required by the delegation were:

- a comprehensive review of all permits issued prior to program delegation;
- an increase in the number of inspections conducted and field tests witnessed by divisional staff; and
- increased record keeping and reporting to EPA.

To support these changes to the existing program, Federal funds were awarded in a grant to the Division.

In a recent review of the first year of program implementation it was obvious to the Division and EPA that existing divisional resources were stretched. Additional resources, particularly personnel, were needed to maintain the historical quality of the state program. Accordingly, the award of Federal funds was increased to support the required activities during the current fiscal year.

To maintain a quality program and achieve our mutual goals, I would appreciate any and all support you can provide toward obtaining the necessary resources, particular personnel, for the Division.

If you would like to discuss this in greater detail, please don't hesitate to call me.

Since rely,

Judith E. Ayres Regional Administrator